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teen elephants' tusks, a large quantity of cedar, four cannons, the remains of a number of swords, muskets, and chains, a number of small shells, some coral, a piece of metal, nearly in the shape of a horse-shoe, which, at the time, we supposed to be the handle of a trunk, and several pieces of a heavy metallic substance.

"Sir Charles Giesecke stated this substance to be a kind of iron dross, probably of volcanic production, which is abundant on the coast of Guinea, and the shells have been classified as of that description which the inhabitants there use for money."

Professor Graves exhibited specimens of the shells, coral, &c.; and mentioned that the piece of metal, supposed to have been the handle of a trunk, was one of the *manillæ*, or bracelets, used to this day for the purpose of barter by merchants trading on the coast of Africa, and identical in shape with the massive gold ornaments frequently found in Ireland.

Professor Graves also read the following memorandum, by Mr. Hamilton, relative to the discovery of what is termed by the country people "a North House," in the demesne of Hampton, and the opening of a tumulus near Knockingen :

"In the month of September, 1840, my brother-in-law, Mr. Rowland Burdon, of Castle Eden, in the county of Durham, being on a visit at Hampton Hall, it occurred to me one morning to ask him to examine two hillocks near Barnageera, in this neighbourhood, in order to ascertain whether they were artificial mounds, or whether they were some of those natural heaps of gravel called Eskers, which are found so frequently across Ireland.

"Mr. Burdon had satisfied himself that the first which he examined was natural, when his attention was attracted by a large stone in the face of a ditch, which had been made recently, traversing the hillock; he found it to be a flag, and, when pulled down, it proved the head-stone of a rude stone coffin, with a skeleton encased. There was no weapon or coin, or anything to indicate the date or circumstances of the

interment. On learning this, we proceeded to make an excavation in the second mound, and found there also some bones, and a broken pipe, of a very large size, but in shape resembling the common tobacco pipes of the country.

“ While thus engaged, an old man, one of my tenants, came up to me, and inquired whether I had ever seen ‘the North House,’ that had been found on my property, not far from the place where we then were. I had never heard the term ‘ North House’ before, and asked him what he meant. ‘ Oh,’ he said, ‘ a kind of house under ground, made of large flags and stones, with a passage like a large sewer leading to it.’ The North House, to which he referred, proved to have been completely destroyed ; the stones had been carried away for building some years previously. But one of the fields in my demesne at Hampton, having been usually called ‘ The North House meadow,’ although the origin of the name had never before suggested itself, it occurred to me as not unlikely that the name might have been given to it in consequence of one of these North Houses having been at some time discovered in it.

“ With the view of ascertaining this, we proceeded to make excavations in different parts of the field, and at length we happened upon the top stone of just such a chamber as the old man had described.

“ It was constructed with large stones, in the rudest manner ; the one stone projecting beyond that immediately below it, till a kind of bee-hive arch was formed : its height might have been six feet, and its diameter perhaps the same. There was a winding passage, or sewer, about three feet in height, and the same in breadth, constructed also of large flags and stones, and probably twenty yards in length, leading into it, and a small funnel, not more than one foot in its dimensions, at the opposite side of the chamber : the passage and the funnel were probably much larger, but they had been broken into as they approached the surface of the hill. We traced the side walls for a considerable distance. There was no

cement used in the construction of this North House. We found in it bones of oxen and swine, and some sea shells; also the bones of birds, brought there, probably, by foxes.

“ There was a larger and better defined mound than those I have mentioned, on the edge of the sea-cliff, near Knockingen, or Knocknagen, just where the little river Delvin, dividing the counties of Dublin and Meath, falls into the sea, and forms a small sandy bay. A portion of this mound had been already washed away, and the remainder seemed destined soon to share the same fate. On the beach immediately below there were several immense stones, which apparently had fallen from the mound. There was also, perhaps a hundred yards to seaward, a considerable number of similar stones. I could not help thinking that they had formerly formed a part of two North Houses.

“ The mound at the edge of the cliff afforded so favourable an opportunity for examination, that, having obtained permission from Lord Gormanstown, on whose estate it was situate, we proceeded to dig it away. It was composed of small round stones, or shingle, from the shore. Our work was soon interrupted by huge stones, similar to those on the shore, and which appeared placed in a circle, buried in sand and shingle, around, but at some distance from the centre of the mound. Within this outer circle of stones we found, on what appeared to have been a floor of beaten clay, a large quantity of burned human bones, apparently of persons of different ages: we found amongst them the bones of very young children. In the centre of this circle there was a chamber constructed of immense flags, some of them more than six feet in height; and within this a rude stone basin, or rather a large stone of sandstone grit, with a cavity or hollow formed in it. This stone bore evident marks of fire; and around it, on all sides, were remains of charcoal or burned wood, and a quantity of burned human bones. Amongst these bones we found some beads, made of polished stone, in shape conical, with a hole through each, near the apex of the cone.

“ A portion of the mound may still be seen overhanging the cliff, and if the section of it next the cliff be examined, the bones and charcoal may be easily observed.

“ I gave the particulars of this discovery to Mr. D'Alton when he was about to publish his Memoir of Drogheda, and it is referred to in the first volume of his History of Drogheda. I stated to Mr. D'Alton that there was no tradition of the origin of this vast funereal pile, but he quotes a passage from Dr. Hanmer's Chronicles of Ireland, from which it would appear that a battle was fought between an army of marauders and Dermott Lamhdearg, King of Leinster, about the commencement of the fifth century, at Knock-na-cean, *i. e.*, the Hill of Heads, the marauders having landed at the ‘ Follesse of Skerries.’

“ Rude stone coffins, composed of the common flag-stones of the country placed together in the form of a coffin, with skeletons, are found very frequently in this neighbourhood.

“ Although it is unconnected with the foregoing, I may as well state, as a matter of curiosity, that Mr. Burdon, about the same time, when visiting the Hill of Tara, discovered and brought home to me a regular joint of a basaltic column, brought, no doubt, in the days of Tara's greatness from the Giant's Causeway. He discovered it accidentally; it was covered by the sod, and was not far from the pillar, supposed to be the Lia Fail.”

Rev. Samuel Haughton, Fellow of Trinity College, read a paper on “ The Equilibrium and Motion of elastic solid, and fluid Bodies.”

The object of the paper is to deduce, by the method of the ‘ Mecanique Analytique’ of Lagrange, the laws of solid and fluid bodies from the same physical principles, and to discover by the same method the conditions at the limits.

The principle from which Mr. Haughton deduces the equations is, that the molecules of solid and fluid bodies *act on each other in the direction of the line joining them*, with a